

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 7 and 10 without prejudice, and amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal layer and a pair of electrodes for applying voltage onto the liquid crystal installed on both sides of said liquid crystal layer, the liquid crystal layer and pair of electrodes being sandwiched by a pair of substrates, wherein:

said liquid crystal layer has a section obtained by polymerizing a polymerizable compound in the presence of said liquid crystal through selective irradiation of active energy rays over the substrate surface;

a section or sections (alignment direction controlling section or sections) that show an effect to control the alignment directions caused by a polymerized liquid crystal composition obtained by the selective irradiation of active energy rays are installed on either one of the surfaces which contact the liquid crystal layer (liquid crystal layer contacting surfaces), or each independently on both of the surfaces;

a first polarizer and a second polarizer are installed each on one of the outer sides of said pair of substrates so that the absorption axes of the two polarizers are perpendicular to each other;

a first 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between one of said substrates and the first polarizer;

a second 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between the other one of said substrates and the second polarizer; and,

the absorption axis of the first polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate, the absorption axis of the second polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate, and the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate and the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate are perpendicular to each other.

2. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal layer and a pair of electrodes for applying voltage onto the liquid crystal installed on both sides of said liquid crystal layer, the liquid crystal layer and pair of electrodes being sandwiched by a pair of substrates, wherein:

said liquid crystal layer has a section obtained by polymerizing a polymerizable compound in the presence of said liquid crystal through selective irradiation of active energy rays over the substrate surface without voltage application;

a section or sections (alignment direction controlling section or sections) that show an effect to control the alignment directions caused by a polymerized liquid crystal composition obtained by the selective irradiation of active energy rays are installed on either one of the surfaces which contact the liquid crystal layer (liquid crystal layer contacting surfaces), or each independently on both of the surfaces;

a first polarizer and a second polarizer are installed each on one of the outer sides of said pair of substrates so that the absorption axes of the two polarizers are perpendicular to each other;

a first 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between one of said substrates and the first polarizer;

a second 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between the other one of said substrates and the second polarizer; and,

the absorption axis of the first polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate, the absorption axis of the second polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate, and the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate and the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate are perpendicular to each other.

3. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said liquid crystal layer has a section obtained by polymerization through selective irradiation of active energy rays followed by irradiation of active energy rays all over the substrate surface with voltage application.

4. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 3, wherein at least one of said two irradiations of active energy rays has been carried out along a direction tilted from the normal to the substrate surface.

5. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to one of claim 1 or 2, where said liquid crystal layer shows a specific light shielding pattern caused by the alignment of liquid crystal molecules when a voltage is applied after said irradiation or irradiations of active energy rays.

6. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 5, wherein said specific light shielding pattern caused by the alignment of liquid crystal molecules comprises at least one pattern selected from the group consisting of a lattice pattern, a crisscross pattern, a pattern in the shape of stripes and a pattern in the shape of stripes with bends.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 7, wherein at least one means selected from the group consisting of protrusions, depressions and a slit pattern in an electrode is installed on the surface or surfaces which contact the liquid crystal layer (liquid crystal layer contacting surface or surfaces).

9. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to one of claim 1 or 2, wherein said liquid crystal has a negative dielectric constant anisotropy,

and is aligned in the direction vertical to the substrate surface when no voltage is applied after said irradiation or irradiations of active energy rays.

10-18. (Cancelled)